THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXX. NUMBER 36. | CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1883. | *Per Annum in Advance.* TOWN.....11-8 MOFUSSIL.....13-4

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 27TH AUGUST.

THE TIMES has discovered a mare's nest. It seems to think that the Indian press is in the hands of "a small and exclusive caste"—the Brahmins. It says:

A small and exclusive caste of Hindoos, having interests diametrically opposed to the interests of mass of the Indian population, pass themselves off at such meetings as last night's for the spokesmen of two hundred and fifty millions of men. 'If any one wants to know what their friendship and approval is worth to us or to India let him read in our Indian news of yesterday the diatribe of the "Hindoo Patriot" against "Radical ideas." Lord Ripon is treated to the most fulsome adulation when he sets Brahmans in high places and makes them judges, but the instant he tries to settle an agricultural question on which the very existence of sixty or seventy millions of poor peasants depends, he is warned by these patriots, who are land-owners, that his burning zeal is converting Bengal into a second Ireland.

Nothing could be more untrue than the statement that it is the Brahmins who control the Indian press, but even if they did, their sympathy is entirely with the masses. As for our opposition to the present Rent Bill, it is due to two causes, 1stly because it seeks to rob Peter to pay Paul, and 2ndly because it will set class against class, and necessarily destroy peace and harmony among the people. Is this proper work for a wise and beneficent Government? And are we justly open to censure when we point out the danger? The *Times* hastily echoes the cry of the Anglo-Indians against the Ilbert Bill, though it is at best purely sentimental, but has nothing to say against a measure, which threatens to create an agrarian revolution. Such is the *Times'* sense of Justice!

THE ENGLISHMAN thus discusses the question of the Permanent Settlement:

It is in effect a solemn contract, quite as much as was the famous Magna Charta granted to the Barons of England at Runnymede; a contract ratified then, and repeatedly thereafter, by the legislature, and a contract on the faith of which all subsequent transactions connected with the transfer of landed property have been entered into. The attempt of the Government of the present day to tamper with that contract is rendered the more invidious by its despotic character. Where a representative legislature decides upon varying or rescinding a contract entered into by its predecessors, it acts with the virtual consent of both the parties. Yet, even in such a case, the amplest compensation is always granted to those whose interests are injuriously affected by the change. But, in the present instance, it is one party to the contract which proposes, of its own motion, and by the abuse of its plenary power, to override one of its most important provisions, in a way which must not only most seriously affect the pecuniary interests of the other party, but work a complete revolution in their status.

It is really amazing that a Christian Government should make light of such an elementary question as that of *meum* and *teum!*

BY WAY of comment on the above the *Statesman* says:

We should like to see what the *Englishman* thinks of the suggestion that as the settlement is of the nature of a contract, the Courts should determine the 'rights' of the parties thereunder, before the Legislature takes any step whatever to alter its terms. The issues of fact could, we believe, be dealt with far more satisfactorily by the Courts than by any discussion of them in the Legislative Council. It is strange, we think that the question has never yet come before the judges. There has been incessant dispute over the right interpretation of the contract, while the only authority that can authoritatively declare the rights that exist thereunder has never yet been appealed to. The case is one *sui generis* there being no precedent to guide us. If the settlement is a contract, as we think it must be held to be, it seems to be the suggestion of common sense that all dispute as to the meaning of its terms should be referred to the judges. When they have told us what the precise rights of the zemindar are and their limits, the Government will know what powers really belong to it, and what do not. The question *of compensation* cannot be over-ridden by the Legislature, without again perpetrating the wrong-doing which has been so common in the past history of our rule. It is righteousness not power that truly exalts a people, and if the zemindar really has contracted rights under the settlement which this Bill invades, we ought to know the fact beforehand and shape our legislation accordingly.

We fully endorse the opinion of our contemporary. The question is not new. It was more than once mooted by the zemindars, and we believe they were advised that the matter could not come before a court of law without the consent of both parties. We think the best course would be for both the Government and the Zemindars to prepare amicably a joint case and to lay it before the Privy Council for opinion.

CERTAIN inhabitants of Backergunj have submitted a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor which contains the following prayer:

That with this view your humble memorialists venture to approach your Honor with their earnest their most importunate prayers, that two scholarships similar to those accorded for the study of agriculture, be granted to two most competent students, for the study, theoretical and practical, of manufactures in England, having particular reference to such articles of manufacture, the materials for which sufficiently exist in this country, but which articles are nevertheless imported from England at present moment.

We second the prayer of the memorialists. We admit that by far the better course would be to establish technical schools in India, but in their absence the scholarships proposed are calculated to do much good. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will give a favourable consideration to the memorial.

TUESDAY, 28TH AUGUST.

A CORRESPONDENT has sent us a long letter regarding Mr. Macaulay's Local Boards Bill, from which we give the following extracts:

The principle of Local Boards or bodies entrusted with areas smaller than a district and to make them independent bodies is contained in both the repealed and existing Cess Acts. Sir George Campbell's Act provides for the formation of Branch committees. Sir Ashley Eden's Act makes the same provision in a permissive form. Sections 78 and 79 of Act X (B.C.) of 1871 and Sections 164 and 165 of Act IX (B.C.) of 1880 provide for the independence of Branch Road Cess Committee and the assignment to it of Road Cess and other funds. Mr. Macaulay's Bill leaves the allotment of funds to Local Boards to the Central Board. As regards control, it is wholly left to the District Magistrate and the provision of Sections 159 and 161 virtually reduce the Local Boards to non-entities. In the matter of control of funds the Local Boards will have funds allotted to them by the Central Board. The only power given to the local committee is that of submitting modifications in the Budget to the Central Committee. If the chance is not availed of the Central Committee can make any alterations. Now in many respects the Divisional Commissioners occupied the position now given to the Central Board. Under the election rules in the Bill very seldom will the full complement of two-thirds of the members be elected. Under the old and existing Cess Acts the election of members was not more restricted. As regards the election of Vice-Chairman the provision in Mr. Macaulay's Bill does not go beyond Sir George Campbell's Act under which no sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor was necessary. The provision regarding the election of a chairman is now important. But the election of the Chairman of a Local Board shall be subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor. These are the salient points of the Local Self Government scheme and this scheme the European public have thought fit to oppose. If the natives like children should choose to amuse themselves with these trivial things, surely the thoughtful and intelligent European community should smile at their simplicity.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, it is stated, have recorded a Resolution respecting the Junaghur massacre. It severely censures the Nawab, and dismisses the Dewan, Assistant Dewan, and Superintendent of Police, from their respective posts.

THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT recently conceived the idea of an Act of the Legislature, compelling the ryot, under penalty of a fine, to aid in the destruction of locusts. Fortunately, the Supreme Government has refused to sanction the introduction of any such Bill into the Provincial Council.

THE FOLLOWING are the results of the Census returns of Egypt: Total population 6,798,230, of whom 3,963,918 are males, and 3,404,312 females. Cairo has 368,108 inhabitants; Alexandcia, with its suburbs, 208,775; Port Said, 16,550; Suez, 10,913; Tantah 33,725; Damietta, 34,046; Rosetta, 16,671; Mansourah, 26,784; Zagazig, 19,046.

THE FOLLOWING are the rules of the Northbrook Indian Society:

I.—Any Native Gentleman desirous of availing himself of the advantages of the Northbrook Indian Society must write to the Secretary of the Society (6, John Street, Bedford Row, London), at least six months before the proposed departure from India of his son or ward, giving full information as to his age and previous education, and the training desired for him in England. The application must be accompanied by letter testifying to the position of the applicant, and his means of defraying all the expenses of his son or ward while living in England. One of the letters should be from a Collector and Magistrate, or other Officer of equal relative rank.

II.—All applications will be considered on their merits, the condtions being settled by special arrangement in each case. The Society reserves to itself the right of rejecting any application.

III.—The duties undertaken by the Society will be, to meet the Student on his arrival; to procure lodgings for him, and to make all necessary arrangements for his education, whether at a University or Inn of Court, or by the employment of Tutors or otherwise, as arranged in each case; to make out of the remittances placed at its disposal, all payments requisite for the above objects, as well as the personal allowances agreed upon with the parent or guardian, and generally to superintend the student's conduct.

IV.—The society will from time to time communicate to the parents or guardians, the progress made by those entrusted to its care; and when required by anything in the conduct of a Student, will advise as to the proper measures to be taken.

V.—An annual charge of Ten Pounds sterling in respect of the cost of such supervision will be made for each Student under the care of the Society.

VI.—The Society will also undertake to give its advice and assistance to Indian gentlemen of full age, visiting England, who are not under the authority of parents, or guardians, and who produce letters, as provided in article I.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH AUGUST.

THE LAHORE TRIBUNE, while disagreeing with us as to the necessity of a National Fund, makes some remarks, which we give below:

But the plan the Indian Association have so far adopted seems to be open to some criticism. In the first place, they have placed too much reliance on their own power, and have not, it seems, shown any regard for that other public body of Bengal which is of much older growth, and which is able to help most materially in an enterprise of the kind undertaken by the Indian Association. Another suggestion we would make in connection with the movement, if it is at all intended to give it the semblance of a national movement, is to extend its sphere of operation to whole India. Of course, this has been already contemplated. The fund should have nothing whatever to do with provincial matters, except in so far as those matters are likely to further the interests of the nation at large. The objects to which the fund is to be directed should be as catholic as the fund itself—otherwise the movement will be sure to prove a failure. But a third point is, how can you expect to raise a national fund unless its disbursements are placed in the hands of a national committee? This is rather a hard problem to solve, but its solution is nevertheless a condition precedent to the success of the movement. It would not be an easy job for delegates of the various public bodies, scattered all over the country, to meet at any place, even say once a quarter, for the purpose of transacting business. The matter is one that deserves the most serious consideration, and we hope all the collected wisdom of our public men will be brought to bear upon it, so that it may be brought to some satisfactory solution.

THE HINDU, which supports the movement for a National Fund, would not confine it to mere political agitation. Our contemporary says:

Again is not the establishment of a national fund desirable to assits our countrymen to go to England and pass there the competitive examination for admission into the Civil Service? We also mentioned a very important subject, in fact a subject of the first importance to the country, namely, the effort that should be made to enable a few youths of our country to acquire a good industrial education in England or America. Now these objects, although a few in number, are of such foremost importance that if the proposed national fund can achieve one of them, it will have done a service creditable to Indian patriotism. Perhaps it will be better to leave out for the present some of the questions mentioned by the leaders of the movement, for they are such as may not evoke sufficiently strong sympathy from other parts of the country. We entreat them to consider this last of our suggestions.

IN THE matter of the direct railway between Bombay and Calcutta, in extension of the Nagpore line, the Government of India have decided in favour of a route from Dugni to join the E. I. Railway at Sitarampore, in preference to a new line all the way from Dugni to Howrah, which would make the through railway communication shorter by 71 miles, but would require over 128 lakhs of rupees additional capital.

SIR MADHAVA RAO made a splendid oration at the last anniversary of Patcheappa's Charities, Madras. He paid a graceful tribute to the memory of John Bruce Norton in the following terms:

I knew Mr. Norton in the plenitude of his ability, of his energy, and of his benevolence. A European, and therefore an alien, though he was, he sincerely loved the natives of the land. His was not a barren feeling occasionally paraded for merely conventional purposes. It was genuine in its character. It operated steadily—it operated incessantly—it bore substantial fruits It was the offspring of a large heart and of a deep conviction. In the very hall in which we are now assembled, he said of himself and his European fellowmen. "We must drop the habit of regarding ourselves as mere exiles, whose first object should be to escape from a disagreeable climate, with the greatest possible amount of the people's money in the shortest possible time. We must look upon the land as that of our adoption; and each of us, according to his means and opportunities, must help on the welfare of the natives in that station of life to which it has pleased God to call him." Keeping this, his own high ideal, constantly before him he worked on honestly, vigorously, and, as we all know, with remarkable success.

SIR MADHAVA RAO thus advocated the cause of high education:

Elementary education, I do not deny, has an important use of its own. But mere elementary education cannot supply power enough to overcome the inertia of ages—cannot supply power enough to break through the barriers placed on the path of progress, by ignorance, by prejudice, and by superstition. For this purpose, a certain amount of power is required. Knowledge being power, we must impart knowledge to that degree which yields no less than the power required for the purpose. It is, therefore, to be earnestly hoped that nothing will be done to retard high education even on the plea

of accelerating elementary education. I cannot let this opportunity pass without offering a few remarks regarding a suspicion which has been more or less haunting the minds of our rulers—at least some of them,—a suspicion that highly educated natives are prone to become disloyal to the BritishGovernment. Having had every intimate intercourse with many highly educated fellow countrymen,—having had access to their inmost thoughts,—I have no hesitation in avowing my belief thus publicly that suspicion has no real foundation. On the contrary, I feel sure that, as a rule, highly educated native gentlemen realise and appreciate the blessings of British domination far better than the great mass of the people, whose knowledge is limited to their own personal experience, and who can hardly recall the frightful mis-government of the past. Of all people of India, those who have had the benefit of high education are the most interested and most earnest in wishing for the continuance of British rule. They are convinced that British rule is absolutely necessary for the peace, the prosperity, and the future development of India. They are convinced that no other power on earth would govern India so justly, so wisely, and so beneficially.

THURSDAY, 30TH AUGUST.

SIX PATIENTS of Dr. Sitanath Ghose who authenticate their letters testify from personal experience to the wonderful efficacy of the electric treatment in cases of acute remittent fever. The patients under this mode of treatment feel less prostration and more comfort than under the orthodox treatment.

IT APPEARS from a question put in Parliament that Mr. Wallace, District Judge of Cuddapah, Madras, has been suspended for charging the senior member of the Madras Council with taking presents from natives.

WITH REGARD to pensions to public officers awarded from the Indian revenue Mr. Cross made the following important statements in the House of Commons:

With respect to the pensions, I may say that in a speech in this House on the 8th of May last, I said that they were about £ 4,000,000 sterling in England and about 119 lakhs of rupees in India, the total cost to India to provide this payment being some Rs. 60,000,000. This includes the pensions of natives.

The question is how much is received by the natives? —not half of what is given to the European servants of Government.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the receipt of a new Bengali daily, entitled the *Dainik Bartha*, issued from Hooghly. It is fairly written.

WE HAVE received another paper entitled the *N. W. News* issued from Benares. It is written in English.

WE GIVE the following abstract of the weather and crop reports:

Good rain fell during the week in most of the districts of the Madras presidency and Mysore, greatly benefiting the standing crops on unirrigated lands. In the Bombay presidency moderate showers fell in parts of the Deccan and Southern Mahratta country, but the rainfall is generally insufficient, and the crops have suffered much from the drought. In Sind the river remains low, and injury to the *kharif* is feared. In the Berars the rainfall has been slight; but although more rain is needed, the crops have not suffered. Timely and beneficial rain, moderate in quantity but generally sufficient to remove immediate apprehension, has fallen in Indore and Neemuch and at Sutna. In most of the Central India States, however, there was no rain during the week under report, and great anxiety is felt for the crops, though later reports are somewhat more favourable. In Rajpootana the condition of the crops is daily becoming more critical. Except for very slight showers, rain continues to hold off, and in Serohi half the crop is reported to be irretrievably lost. Scarcity of fodder is also anticipated. From British Burmah, Bengal, and Assam the reports continue favourable. Over the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the rainfall has been light and insufficient, but easterly winds and cloudy weather prevail.

FRIDAY, 31ST AUGUST.

COL. OSBORN in his last letter to the *Statesman*, referring to Mr. Lalmohun Ghose's speech at the Ilbert Bill meeting at Willis's Rooms, says: "No one who heard him could fail to be struck by the absurdity of the assertion that the natives of India have not the abilities requisite for discharging the duties of important offices of public trust."

OF SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL'S speech the same writer says: "Sir George, unhappily for himself, tries to amalgamate in his own person the two characters of covenanted civilian and advanced radical. The one would constrain him to assume the character of an anti-Ilbertite; the latter forces him to appear on a public platform and profess approval of that which in his heart he dislikes. And the result was that Sir George's speech left his auditors doubtful whether he spoke in support of Lord Ripon's policy, or in defence of the Covenanted Civilians against the implied attack upon them in the fact of a meeting being held at all." Nevertheless we feel thankful to Sir George.

OF MR. CHICHILE PLOWDEN the above writer remarks: "Mr. Plowden's speech was quite a curiosity in the way of oratory. It was as if the man had written out an official letter on half-margin, and then learned it by heart." This is ungenerous.

IT IS stated that a rule has been issued by the Bombay High Court directing that "in addressing native gentlemen of distinction, the District Judges and their subordinates shall do so by letter, in such style as shall seem appropriate, rather than send summonses to them," and in the case of ruling Chiefs, "they may learn the proper style from the Political Agent or the Political Department of the Secretariat." This rule ought to be adopted in the other provinces.

THE TOBACCO TRADE in Madras is steadily on the increase. The shipments of tobacco and cigars last month from Madras were estimated at 3,873lbs. Madras cigars now find their way to Great Britain, Yokohama, Melbourne, Sydney, and the Mauritius.

THE TITLE of Rai Bahadoor has been conferred on Baboo Shib Chunder Bannerjee, Pleader, Bhaugulpore, as a personal distinction.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR correspondent writes that the recent resolution of the Government of Bengal directing that all postmortem examinations shall be performed by the Civil Surgeon has become a source of great hardship and annoyance to the relatives of deceased persons and expense to the State. For instance during the past few months 5 dead bodies had been sent from Kushtea to Goalundo at an expense of over 100 rupees, not to say the great hardship and trouble thus caused to the relatives of the deceased. The Kushtea hospital is under the management of an experienced old medical officer named Tarinichurn Sen, who is quite competent to perform postmortem examinations. It is to be hoped the Government will modify the order.

SATURDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER.

THERE WERE 182 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 25th August, of which 7 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 65 from fevers, 19 from bowel-complaints, 3 from accidents, 12 from pthisis and asthma, 9 from convulsions, 15 from tetanus, and the rest from other causes. Infant mortality 59. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 16. The average of daily mortality was 26.

THERE IS at last a chance of Mr. Haridas Nanabhai being confirmed to the bench of the Bombay High Court on the elevation of Mr. Justice Melville. Better late than never!

WE ARE glad to observe that Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy has been for the third time appointed a member of the Bombay Legislative Council.

THE GREAT swindling case connected with the firm of Messrs. Ralli Brothers has been disposed of after about a fortnight's trial. The defendants with one exception have been convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for different periods.

A SENSATIONAL case is going on in the High Court in which Miss Pigot charges the Rev. Mr. Hastie with defamation.

THE LONDON SPECTATOR thus concludes a powerful article in support of the Ilbert Bill:

The extravagant agitation against it will by force of the recoil, help it to pass into law; and although we should ourselves have much preferred to wait awhile, we have too much confidence in the good sense of our countrymen in India to doubt that they will soon reconcile themselves to a change which will affect but few of them for a long time to come, and which will not affect these few so prejudicially as some of them now fear. The provisions of Mr. Ilbert's Bill have always been the law and practice of Ceylon under British rule, and have been found to give complete satisfaction to British residents there.

THE ENGLISHMAN publishes the following telegram from Mozufferpore:

MOZUFFERPORE 30TH AUGUST.

A crowded meeting of Indigo Planters was held to-day at Mozufferpore to further protest against the Ilbert Bill. The meeting expressed regret at the defiant position taken up by Government in entirely disregarding the universal public protest of the classes affected. Mr. Hudson's letter to the Defence Association was said to express accurately the feeling of the planting community. The meeting decided that, should the Bill be passed, the *Planters would individually and collectively decline to submit to it, and would never recognise the right of native Magistrates to try them and would hold together as one man in defence of their rights.*

The italics are ours. Yes, this is the way to teach the natives of this country loyalty to law.

WHILE indignation meetings are being held against the Ilbert Bill, it is noteworthy that individual European British subjects are practically supporting the Bill. A case lately occurred in the Baraset Sub-Division, in which a European British subject voluntarily waived his birth-right and elected to be tried by the Native Deputy Magistrate of the station. And yet it is said the Europeans in the Mofussil have no confidence in Native Magistrates.

WE acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Forest Administration in the several Provinces under the Government of India for 1881-82. 2. Report on the Excise Department in British Burma for 1882-83. 3. Fifty-Second Annual Report of the District Charitable Society for 1882. 4. Professor Max Muller's Hibbert Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion as illustrated by the Religions of India. Translated into Maharathi by Govind Wasudev Kantikar, B.A. L.L.B. Published by B. M. Malabari. 5. The Annual Report of the Bow Bazar Government Aided Vernacular School for 1882. Buddhism and Christianity with an appendix on Nirvana. By Nisikant Chattopadhya (Translated from the German.) 7. On the Temples of Deoghur—By Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D. C.I.E. Reprinted from the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. III, Part I, 1 83. 8. Harisha-Vishad or Sorrow in Joy—an elegiac Poem in Bengali. By Preonath Mittra. 9. Story—Series in Bengali. By Damoodur Mookerjee, Vol. II. No. 3. 10. Krishi Tutwa—or the Agriculturist Vol. 5. Nos. 5 and 6.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, August 27.—It is announced from Tamatave that Mr. Shaw, the Missionary, has been acquitted on the charges preferred against him, and has been released.

29.—It is announced that all the prisoners implicated in the massacres at Alexandria have been sentenced to be hanged. News has been received that O'Donnell has sailed for England to undergo his trial for the murder of James Carey.

31.—The *Daily News* this morning publishes a telegram stating that Russian troops are arriving at Askabad, with the intention of marching to Merv.

Vienna August 26.—The Funeral of the Count de Chambord is fixed to take place at Gorita on September 3rd. All Members of the Bourbon and Orleanist families will attend the ceremony.

27.—Anti-Magyar disturbance have broken out in Croatia, in the course of which several officials have been wounded. Troops have been ordered to proceed there, and martial law has been proclaimed. It is also announced that anti-Jewish disturbance during the last three days, have broken out in Western Hungary. The military were called out, and many were killed and wounded on both sides.

30.—A ministerial crisis considered imminent in Hungary unless the authorities here sanction the adoption of forcible measures in Croatia, where the revolutionary agitation is increasing.

Paris, August 28—Placards have been posted here favouring the cause of Louis Philippe the Second. A reinforcement of fifteen hundred men is being sent to Tenquin.

Batavia 29—The tidal wave caused by the late eruption has completely destroyed Anjer and occasioned great loss of life. The aspect of the Straits of Sunda is changed, rendering navigation dangerous.

30—The news published by the *Temps* concerning the French Treaty with the King of Annam has been confirmed. The province of Binthuam has been ceded to France, and the latter assumes control of the Kingdom, finances and customs. Senor Zorilla, in whose interest the late republican disturbances in Spain took place, has left France, and the French Government have promised to prevent his return.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1883.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 4th September at 7½ P.M.

Subject: Laws of Electro-Magnetism Magneto-Electric and Volta-Electric Induction.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Wednesday, the 5th September, at 5 P.M.

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S.J. C.I.E., on Thursday, the 6th September, at 7½ P.M.

Subject: Refraction.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 8th September at 3 P.M.

Subject: Sulphuric Acid and the remaining Oxyacids of Sulphur. Also Selenium and Tellurium.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1883.

THE ZEMINDARS' PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

THE Zemindars of Bengal and Behar, through the Central Committee of Landholders appointed by the British Indian Association, have petitioned both Houses of Parliament regarding the Bengal Tenancy Bill. They state that "the manifest tendency of the Bill seems to be to revolutionise the present relations between landlord and tenant in the provinces of Bengal and Behar, to redistribute landed property on a new and inequitable basis, and to fetter the freedom of action of all classes interested in agriculture by driving them at almost every step of their mutual transactions to Courts of Law and fiscal officers,

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and to foster dispute, litigation, and animosities in lieu of peace, harmony, and good-will among them." We have not space for the petition *in extenso*, but give below a summary of the objections taken to the leading principles of the Bill:

I. The Bill proposes to effect a redistribution of land by making an allotment of it in a manner which neither past history nor present facts justify. It declares that all lands, except such as are in the private possession of the landlord in respect of which he may prove 12 year's continuous occupation, shall be regarded, from the date of the introduction of the Bill, as the specific property or portion of the tenant class for habitation and cultivation, along with various incidental rights; that at the discretion of Government the lands may be surveyed and demarcated at the expense of both landlord and tenant; that conflicting claims to such lands shall be the subject of a summary investigation; and that the landlord, even in case of relinquishment of a tenancy or of its purchase by him, if he wishes to let it, shall be bound to re-let it to a new tenant at the old rate and conditions, including permanent occupancy right. This is wholly an innovation, and makes a serious encroachment upon the proprietary rights of the landlord. It is in direct antagonism with past history, for when the Permanent Settlement was concluded, it was the land which sought the tenant, and not the tenant who sought the land; and this was particularly the case in the distribution of waste lands, which had been made over to the landlords or zemindars by way of compensation for the ruinous assessment of the settlement, and the proprietary right from the reclaimed portion of which is now being taken away from them. The land had thus no such characteristic attached to it as now proposed, and the landlord was in no way fettered in the mode of the settlement of his estate. The proposed provision will not only deprive the landlord of his inherent right of re-entering upon land which a tenant may relinquish or which may lapse on the expiration of a lease, but will also give rise to serious dispute, misunderstanding and litigation between landlord and tenant and the establishment of their claims to different classes of lands.

II. At the time of the Pemanent Settlement the resident hereditary tenant had fixity of tenure; custom had recognized that right, but no period had been fixed for the accrual of the right; by Act X of 1859, 12 years' continuous possession was declared to be the basis of occupancy right; and this provision was allowed retrospective effect; accordingly a squatter by mere efflux of 12 years' time, acquired a right of occupancy, to the detriment of the rights of the actual proprietors of the soil guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement. This is the interpretation of that law by some of the highest Judicial Authorities, notably Sir Barnes Peacock, late Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court, and now a Member of H. M'S Privy Council, and Sir Richard Garth, the present Chief Justice of Bengal; but this innovation has been the law of the land for nearly a quarter of a century, and although it involves gross injustice to Your Lordships' Petitioners and the class they represent, they would submit to it as they have hitherto done. By far the largest number of tenants in Bengal have acquired a right of occupancy, and they do not wish to take it way. They, however, submit that it would be the height of injustice if the right of occupancy be further extended in the manner proposed in this Bill. It is now declared that any tenant, if he holds any land in any village or estate for twelve years consecutively, though the land so held by him at different times may have been different, shall be deemed to have become a settled tenant of that village or estate, and to have acquired the right of occupancy, though the last plot, in which the right will accrue, may have been held for a year or even for a day, and may exceed ten times the quantity previously held by him. The right of occupancy is also extended to tenants of the private domains of the landlord, unless there be a lease for a fixed period. Even as regards tenants-at-will, the provisions are so fenced with restrictions by providing compensation for disturbance that they will virtually become tenants with permanent occupancy right. The extension of the occupancy or tenant right in this arbitrary manner, without any compensation to the landlord, will be a serious encroachment upon his proprietary rights, and will be a deliberate infraction of the guarantees under which he has invested his capital in land. Indeed, it will have practically the effect of redistributing property in land on a new basis.

III. The tenant-right in Bengal, wherever it has existed, has always been heritable, but not transferable. Even Act X of 1859 did not make it transferable. But it has become transferable in some parts of the country with the mutual consent of the landlord and tenant. The growth of this custom, it desirable, may fairly be left to the natural operation of economic laws. But to force it by a legislative enactment would be alike detrimental to the proprietary rights of the landlord and to the material well-being of the tenant. The landlord will then cease to be the lord of the soil, which he has inherited or purchased by paying market value for it; he will lose his inherent and just right of choosing his own tenant: although directly liable to the State for revenue under the stern sunset law, by losing his hold upon his tenantry under this process of transfer of tenant-right without his consent, he will be driven to despair in the collection of his rent, and consequently to ruin. On the other hand the tenant, by acquiring the new freedom of sale, will, from excessive Government taxation adverse seasons, thriftlessness and other causes, find a facility which will inevitably encompass his ruin, as has been the case in some of the temporarily settled districts of the country where the transferability of the tenant-right is recognized, and where special laws have become necessary for the relief of the distressed agriculturists. Small capitalists, mostly money-lenders, will take the place of the present agriculturists, who will be reduced to mere day-laborers on their expropriated lands.

IV. With a view to counteract the evils to the landlord referred to above, the Bill gives him the right of pre-emption in case of the sale of a tenancy, but under such restrictions as to render it nugatory. In the first place, if the landlord wishes to buy it in, he must pay the full market value for it; that is to say, he must pay a fine, as it were, for exercising his proprietary right, and if he cannot agree with the tenant as to the price, he must go to Court. Even if he purchases it, he will not be allowed the same rights that will be accorded to an ordinary purchaser. After purchasing it, if he chooses to let it again, he must re-let it at the old rent to a new comer, who will *ipso facto* acquire the right of occupancy. An ordinary purchaser will not be bound to accord that right to his sub-tenant. So that a capitalist, who purchases an estate with a certain calculation of return, will get no *quid pro quo* for the sums he will have to lay out again for the purchase of tenancies, simply because the tenant is invested with a new right of transferability of his holding, without of course paying any consideration for it. Supposing that tenants in any large numbers choose to sell their holdings, and that other tenants choose to combine and withhold payment of rent, in order to compel the landlord to their own terms, a contingency by no means unfrequent, ruin will stare him in the face, and if he has not means, he must submit to his fate, however unmerited, through an act of the Legislature, the paramount duty of which is to give equal protection to all classes of H. M.'s subjects.

V. The determination of rent in Bengal has been generally discretionary. It is true that there was at one time a customary rate in many parts of the country, but the custom was varied so much by personal, local, and other considerations, that the rate was practically left to the discretion and mutual understanding of the landlord and tenant. This fact has been brought to prominence by the recent enquiries made by Government as to tables of rates prevalent in different districts. When the Permanent Settlement was made in 1793, the rate of rent, it is on record, varied from three-fourths to one-half the value of the gross produce of the land. Until a few years of the enactment of Act X of 1859, there was not much dispute between landlord and tenant about the rate of rent; the rise in the value of agricultural produce led to a demand for increased rent, and inorder to bring the question of rent to a satisfactory judicial test, the Act declared that the rent shall be reasonable, fair, and equitable, and provided certain rules for the guidance of the Courts. These rules, however, have proved so unworkable that the enhancement of rent through the judicial machinery has practically come to a dead-lock. The gravity of the situation was represented by the landlords to Goverumet, and the Government promised to redress their grievance. That promise is now about to be redeemed by the retrograde step indicated in this Bill. Under this Bill the rent of an occupancy tenant shall not exceed twenty per cent. of the gross value of staple products of the land. In other words, the landlord is practically reduced to one-fifth partner of his own property with his tenant. The rent due to him represents the shares of the Government and of himself, but this arbitrary limit will necessarily deprive him of all participation in the advantages which the progress of the country will confer upon all classes of the community, but will always be subject to losses consequent on decadence and reverses. As regards the tenant-at-will, called in the Bill "ordinary ryot," the restrictions are so fenced round that practically there will be no enhancement of rent. In Behar, there are certain tenures called *Bhoali* tenures, analogous to *Metayer* tenures, and with regard to these the Bill actually sanctions reduction of the present rents. Thus the landlord will be practically deprived of the legitimate fruits of his capital, prudence, and good management, the enjoyment of which had been guaranteed to him by the Permanent Settlement.

VI. Contract is the basis of transactions in civilised life, the first step in advance over patriarchal habits, and essential to the success of social and moral progress. The tenant, as an agriculturist or as a member of society, is allowed perfect freedom of contract in all matters affecting him, whatever the difference in the status, intelligence and influence of the contracting parties; but this Bill declares that he shall not be competent to enter into a contract respecting his tenant-right or the rent payable by him, unless his contract for the latter is approved by a Revenue Officer to be appointed by Government. This denial of the ordinary rights of a citizen to the tenant was never before known to this country. On the contrary, the Legislature had repeatedly encouraged the interchange of lease between landlord and tenant. The disability imposed upon the landlord for the sake of the fancied security of the tenant is still more arbitrary, unjust, and unjustifiable.

VII. The importation of foreign ideas in the regulation of the ordinary relations of life in an Oriental country, for which the people are not ripe, can only lead to harm. Never in the history of this country, or at present within the British territories or in the Native States, is the practice of paying compensation to a tenant-at-will for relinquishment of his holding known or recognized. As a rule, the class of tenants called tenant-at-will have not the means of making improvements, and therefore there has never been any question of compensation for disturbance raised. This innovation will not only be a serious interference with the proprietary rights of the landlord, but will plunge both landlord and tenant into deep litigation.

VIII. This Bill will foster litigation between the landlord and tenant at every step of their transactions. The landlord's office will be transferred to the Revenue Office, and the landlord himself will be reduced to a mere annuitant. Whether the question be classification of land, determination of occupancy right, transferability of a tenancy, the exercise of the right of pre-emption on the part of the landlord, the settlement of rent, the payment of compensation to a tenant-at-will for disturbance or the realisation of rent there will be at every step expensive, harassing, and, not unfrequently, demoralizing litigation. There will be no peace, no concord, no harmony, no good-will between two such important members of the community as the landlord and tenant. Such embittered relations between them, as will be the inevitable result of the proposed Bill, cannot be conducive to the well-being of the State or society.

IX. As regards recovery of rent, the landlord had formerly power to call in the tenant to pay in his rent, failing which he could have him arrested by a simple application to the Court, followed by a summary enquiry. He could attach the property of the tenant and sell it after due notice. All suits for arrears of rent were heard before all others by the Civil Courts and were finally transferred to the Collector for expedition. Act X of 1859 took away from the landlord the power of calling in his tenant. At first the arrear suit was triable by a revenue officer under a summery procedure, but now it has been made a regular civil suit, to be tried at a heavy cost under the regular civil procedure. The result is that ordinarily a rent suit is not disposed of within three months, and not unoften many months, and that if the tenants continue to withhold rent, the landlord must either succumb, or let his estate be sold for default. It is observable that this procedure is not applicable to the State in the recovery of its dues as landlord or as guardian of minor landlords. If the State with its vast resources, unequalled influence, and immense prestige, without the terror of a Sunnet Law for sale of estate in case of default of revenue, deems it necessary to have recourse to a summary law for the realization of rent, how much more necessary is it for the private landlord for a like purpose? Although three successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, as stated above, had promised the landlords the simplification of the procedure for the recovery of rent, still no advance has been made in this Bill in that direction.

X. On the contrary, the Bill practically minimises the only facility which the present law provides for the speedy realization of rent, *viz.*, distraint. The process of distraint is now made at every step a process of Court, and by the time the Court's order may be obtained, the crops may be removed or disposed of, and the landlord's demands thus defeated. As the Bill has been framed, the landlord will on the one hand, be made to forfeit his ancient, substantial, and valuable rights, but will, on the other, derive no benefit from it.

XI. Nor will the *bona fide* cultivator derive material benefrom the Bill. If he holds land under a superior landlord, his rent will be 20 per cent. of the gross produce of the land, but under a subordinate holder it will be 30 per cent. of the same, or 50 per cent. more than what he will pay to the former he will acquire occupancy right under a superior landlord, but none under a subordinate holder, the latter being himself a tenant with a occupancy right. So that without fixity of tenure, freedom of sale or security of fair rent the actual cultivator of the soil under the operation of this Bill will be reduced to the miserable lot of a poor day-labourer.

XII. And this evil will be both multiplied and aggravated as the Bill proposes to encourage sub-letting. If there is any thing in the agricultural system of Bengal which has tended to depress the condition of the actual cultivator of the soil it is sub-infeudation. The actual agriculturist, who constitutes the lowest link of the chain necessarily bears the whole burden, and the more the chain will be lengthened, the worse will be the fate of the actual cultivator of the soil. The new tenure-holders, who are created by the Bill, will be small proprietors, and it may be easily imagined whether small proprietors, themselves not agriculturists but absorbing agricultural profits, are more conducive to the welfare of the agricultural population than large proprietors. By-and-by, as the capital of these small tenure-holders will increase, they will also become large proprietors. The result of the proposed bill will therefore, be the destruction of the present proprietors, who have either inherited or paid fair market value for their estates, the creation of a new class of small proprietors, who will, for the most part, acquire their rights without paying for them, and the impoverishment and degradation of the actual cultivators of the soil.

The petition has been signed by the undermentioned members of the Central Committee of landholders:-

Maharaja of Burdwan, Maharaja of Durbhanga, Maharaja of Hatwa, Maharaja of Dumraon, Maharaja Sir Jotindramohun Tagore, Nawab Abdool Guni and Nawab Ahmed Oolla of Dacca, Maharaja Komul Krishna, Maharaja Narendra Krishna, and Raja Harendra Krishna of Sobhabazar, Calcutta, Raja Poorna Chunder Sing, Paikparah, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal, Bhookoylas, Raja Promothonath Roy, Dighaputty, Raja Surjyakunt Acharjya Chowdhary, Mymensing, Raja Hurbullub Narain Sing, Sunburea (Bhaugulpore), Raja Sbyma Sunker Roy Chowdhary and Nawab MirMohamed Ali of Furreedpore, Baboos Joykissen Mukerjee, Peary Mohun Mukerjee and Bejoykissen Mukerjee, of Utterpara (Hooghly) Babu Saradeendranath Tagore, the Hon'ble Durga Churn Law, Babus Gobin Lal Seal and Kali Prosonna Ghosa of Calcutta Babu Lolitmohun Sing Roy, of Burdwan, Babu Kissory Mohun Gossain of Serampore, Rai Bahadur, Rajendralal Mitra L.L.D.C.I.E., Hon'ble Harbans Sahai, Arrah, Hon'ble Mohamed Yasuf Behar, Babus Mohiny Mohun Roy, Rajshaye, Saligram Sing Sahabad, Mohesh Chunder Chowdry and Joggendra Chunder Ghose, 24-Pergunnahs, Janaky Nath Roy, Gobind Chunder Dutt, Pransunkur Roy Chowdhary, Purbati Sunker Roy Chowdry, Girijasunkur Mozoomdar, Kulada Kinkur Roy, and Sita Nath Roy, of East Bengal, Mr. J. J. Keswick of the firm of Jardine Skinner & Co., and Watson & Co., Mr. M. B. Morrison and Mr. C. J. Qadros, Zemindars of Bhagulpore, Mr. P. F. Canty Zemindar of Purnea, and Kristodas Pal, Secretary.

The petition was presented to the House of Lords by Lord Lytton and to the House of Commons by Mr. Stanhope.

We stated in our last that as the petitions reached Parliament at the fag end of the session no debate could be raised. A debate is expected on the reopening of Parliament in February next.

THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE ZEMINDARS.

III.

HAVING, in two previous articles, given summaries of all the latest and most reliable statistics relating to the ownership and yield of zemindaries, we shall now enquire what economic inferences are deducible therefrom. We have three classes to deal with; 1st Zemindars, including Revenue-free-holders*; 2nd Tenure-holders; 3rd Ryots. The first represent a body of 2,42,413 persons with an aggregate income of Rs. 5,21,10,286, giving an average of Rs. 214·9 per

* The deduction made in our last article of 1-3rd for the revenue-free estates has caused some misunderstanding. The relation between the zemindary and revenue-free estates is as 2 to 5, and the deduction should have been 2-5ths and not 1-3rd; but we preferred the lower figure to provide for the average lower value of revenue-free estates. This should have been at the time explained to prevent misunderstanding.

head. The second include a total of 11,35,222 owners with an aggregate income of Rs. 8,19,34,550, or an average of Rs. 72·1 per estate. The third remains unnumbered. According to the Report of the Famine Commissioners quoted by Sir Evelyn Baring in his speech on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, "there are 9,752,000 tenants in Bengal, of whom 2,789,000 pay a rent of from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20, and no less than 6,36,000 pay a rent of less than Rs. 5," which latter rate, he adds, "implies a holding of from two to three acres." The word "tenant," we believe, is an English rendering of the Indian ryot. If so, we have therein the total of ryots; but the average of their rental remains undetermined, the loose manner in which the averages are given not admitting of definite treatment. The figures, too, are apparently unreliable, and probably include a large number of the lower class tenure-holders. In another part of the speech we have, however, a significant fact, which, if reliable, would afford a very fair datum for calculation. We are told that "in Bengal the yearly value of crops per head of population is Rs. 15·9; the payments Rs. 0·81; the balance Rs. 15·1." Now, the population being 60 millions the total value of the agricultural wealth possessed by that population would amount to 60,000,000×15·9=Rs. 95,40,00,000. Deducting from this sum Rs. 13,11,68,432 + 8,19,34,550=Rs. 21,31,02,982, being the sum-total paid by ryots to tenure-holders and zemindars, the balance Rs. 74,08,97,018 would represent primarily the income of the ryots. This would give an average of Rs. 75·9 per head to the 97,52,000 tenants. The figures would then stand thus: 2,42,413 zemindars at Rs. 214·9 per head; 11,35,222 tenure-holders at Rs. 72·1 per head; 9,752,000 tenants at Rs. 75·97 per head. This is, however, not a fair representation of the case. The profits of the tenants represent the wages of their labour, and the cost of seed, manure and cattle, whereas in the cases of the zemindars and the tenure-holders we have the income of their capital in the form of real property and exclusive of their personal labour. The comparison between zemindars and the tenure-holders is also open to a serious objection, inasmuch as it brings down the revenue of a lac and more a year to the level of the tenure-holder of 1 to 10 Rs. A few owners of large sums swell the average of the many poor owners, and thus mislead the statistician. The figures given in Mr. Grote's report for 1852-53 afford us fair and very useful data; but upwards of 60,000 redemptions of small estates have since taken place, and it is not possible, therefore, to make them correspond with Mr. Harrison's Cess returns of 1878-79. The latter, besides, are not so classified into groups as to afford materials for comparison group by group. They contain, however, two columns of figures which are peculiarly significant. We are told, in the first place, that out of the total of 2,42,413 estates, 35,871 contribute over Rs. 100 of revenue per annum each, and 2,05,542 contribute under that sum. And secondly, 83,873 tenures pay over Rs. 100 per annum each in revenue, and 10,51,349 under that sum. Now, if we omit the 4,782 rich zemindars who get each over Rs. 5000, and among them a total of Rs. 2,61,20,499, from the total of 242,413 zemindary estates under the Cess returns as quite exceptional, and not representing the character of the great body of the zemindars, numbering 2,37,651 we come to an average of Rs. 109-9 against Rs. 72, the average of the tenure-holders, and Rs. 75·91 the average of the ryots. In the present state of our knowledge the case cannot be pushed further, but as it stands it does not show that the zemindars swallow the bulk of the ryots' earnings in the way the advocates of the Tenancy Bill would have the public to believe. Again, if we bear in mind that first class tenures like large Taluks and Patnis, existed in the early part of the century in the Hooghly and Burdwan districts, and are much more paying and profitable than most zemindaries, we shall find that, estate for estate, we have twice as many tenures as zemindaries, of equal average value, the relation being 83,873 to 35,871. In other words we have 2 tenure-holders for every zemindar of equal financial status. The term "equal" has to be understood in a technical sense with reference to the returns under notice. Those returns divide estates and tenures into two classes, those valued under Rs. 100, and those above that sum. The first class is right enough; but the second has a very wide range from Rs. 101 to a hundred thousand or more, and the impropriety of lumping them all under one category becomes prominent. Had Mr. Harrison's tables been arranged on the model of those of Mr. Grote giving separate groups of 100 to 250, 250 to 500, 500 to 1000, and so on, our comparison would have been much more satisfactory. According to Mr. Grote's zemindary Tables, there were, in a total of 2,06,576, no less than 1,97,499 estates worth under Rs. 500 and barely 9,077 estates worth more than that sum in 1852-53. According to the Income Tax returns in 1860-61 there were 2,13,754 estates and tenures valued at over Rs. 200, and in 1863-64, raising the tax rate to 500, the total number brought under taxation was 51,279, showing that out of the total of 2,13,754, no less than 1,62,518 estates and tenures were valued at above Rs. 200 and under Rs. 500. Taking the zemindaries and tenures at 151,936 + 11,35,222 = 12,87,158, we have 2,13,754, valued at more than Rs. 200 a year, and barely 51,236 out of them worth more than Rs. 500 each. If returns could be had of the higher groups they would show that the fall is painfully rapid, and that of really rich classes the number is exceedingly limited. According to the Cess returns the zemindary estates under Rs. 100 number 2,06,542, and the tenures of the same class represent a total of 10,51,349 i. e. for every zemindar of the lower class we have 5 persons of the same financial standing among the tenure-holders. Nor are the results here arrived at at all inconsistent with the general returns of the Income Tax operations of 1860 to 1864. From an abstract annexed below, it will be seen that out of a total of 60 millions of population there were in Bengal barely 2,92,587 persons in 1860-61 who from all sources of income, excepting Government service and interest on Government stocks, received more than Rs. 200 a year, and in 1863-64, only 76,584 received more than Rs. 500 a year. Out of the total no less than 2,09,743 reckoned between 500 and 1,000, and barely 79 got over a lakh. In taking into consideration these figures it should be remembered that if the returns are in any way unreliable they are so on the side of excess and severity, and not on that of leniency. The hue and cry was so universal against surcharges, and the people were so driven to despair, that the Government was driven to a corner, and obliged in very shame to abandon the tax. In England the "upper ten thousand" means the ten thousand or more persons who reckon their income at over ten thousand pounds sterling a year, and the same class in Bengal is represented by 79 persons. The fact is the Pagoda tree which thrived among us has been thoroughly exhausted by incessant and reckless tapping, and a Upas tree has grown beside it. This fact apart, we have 2,92,587 persons deriving a yearly income of over Rs. 200, and allowing two lakhs for service and stock-holders, 59½ millions out of 60 are content with a subsistence allowance of under 16 Rs. a month; and as each bread-winner represents five heads, the ratio per head is under five shillings a month! This is the wealth of Bengal, and this the condition which makes our rulers busy in devising schemes for drawing a larger revenue from the population living on 5 shillings a month! This is a state of things the most woeful to contemplate. A more deplorable picture of wholesale poverty it is not easy to conceive in an ancient and highly civilized society, whose wealth was long the object of envy to the rest of the world. As regards the Zemindars we have, we trust, shown on unquestionable testimony that, a few rich ones apart, the great body of them are not a whit better off than the tenure-holders and the ryots, and that those who descant upon the wealth of the Zemindars and the injury they do to the ryots, are either too simple or not sincere. To professional agitators and humanity-mongers facts and figures are thrown away, but it is difficult to conceive how the statesmen who are the prime movers of Government, whose officers have compiled those facts and figures and are perfectly well aware of the exact state of the case, should have taken the part they have done in connection with the Bengal Tenancy Bill. They must be thoroughly conscious that the attempt to spoliate one class of poor people for the benefit of another is neither just nor expedient, and the alleged reasons in justification of the measure are by no means tenable. If under the circumstances the public decline to accept their profession as sincere, and are driven to suspect other motives the blame must rest entirely with the Government. It is well known that a revulsion of feeling took place against the Permanent Settlement soon after the Nepalese War, in the second decade of this country, when the assets in the exchequer ran low and means had to be found for increasing revenue. The plan hit upon was the resumption of revenue-free tenures, and the battle was fought for fifteen years, carrying woe and starvation among the poor and the lowly. It ended with a compromise in Bengal, but in the Bombay Presidency the sister measure of the Inam Commission lasted for a much longer period. The idea next of assailing the Permanent Settlement directly was openly mooted, and in a minute recorded by Sir Frederick (then Mr.) Halliday it was avowed that it was to the interest of Government that every measure should be encouraged which should tend to the reversion of zemindaries into the hands of Government. Moral feeling was, however, then too strong to bring on any overt act. The Mutiny cleared the way, and the Income Tax made the first encroachment on the pledge of Lord Cornwallis. The Road Cess and the Public Works Cess then followed, and the Revenue, which was fixed in permanence and is still professed to be so, was handicapped by an increase of 77 lakhs on a total 3¾ millions i. e., about 23 per cent, plus collection charges and unavoidable losses which were thrown on the Zemindars. It is quite immaterial to talk of half the amount being taken from the ryots, for it is well known that to tax the ryots for their land is virtually to reduce the income of the zemindars. The longing of Government, however, has not yet been satisfied, and the Finance Minister very cautiously, but not the less unmistakably, declared on March 13, "*It would be easy to show that of the total payments, including rent, made by the people of each province of India a great deal less finds its way into Government Treasury in Bengal than elsewhere.*" And can we find fault with our countrymen naturally suspicious if they imagine that it is not to benefit the ryots, but to find means for making a greater amount find its way into the Government Treasury that the Bill has been conceived! Certain it is that those who have been the most earnest in their profession to protect the interest of the ryots have been, by an irony of fate and under circumstances which it is not worth while now to enquire, the authors of two cesses on the ryots and for the collection of which they have armed the hated zemindars, against the objects of their tender solicitude. The Government admitted at the time that the so-called cruel, hard-hearted, oppressive Zemindars collected their dues more kindly, considerately, unpressingly and inexpensively than it could through its overpaid, and much extolled officers of revenue. To distribute property so as to make taxation easy and productive may be a great act of statesmanship, but to redistribute it in spite of solemn compacts and in defiance of all obligations of justice and morality is quite another matter. In the interest of communistic radicalism we would, however, be willing to submit to it, if the proposed measure could be limited to the spoliation of the 441 Zemindars who get an average of Rs. 73,000 per annum each. But the idea of depriving the 2,06,000 Zemindars who get under a hundred rupees each for the alleged benefit of those who are in no way worse off and in many respects better off than those zemindars is most repulsive to our feeling, and we cannot help strenuously protesting against it. In making these remarks we feel bound to say that the head of the Government is perfectly innocent of the motives which the suspicious native public attribute to the Bill. It is impossible for him to be actuated by any such motive. His sole and only object is to

benefit the people at large, but he has not studied the question thoroughly, and his responsible advisers we are afraid have misled him. Possibly the advisers of Government are acting upon the old English adage—

The higher the rates the lower the rent,
The lower the rates the higher the rent.

Income Tax Statistics for the Lower Provinces of Bengal, showing the Number of Tax-payers classified by Incomes in each year, exclusive of persons drawing salaries from Government and holders of Government Stocks.

Classes.	1860-61.			1861-62.			1862-63.			1863-64.		
	Calcutta and Suburbs.	Mofussil.	Total.	Calcutta and Suburbs.	Mofussil.	Total.	Calcutta and Suburbs.	Mofussil.	Total.	Calcutta and Suburbs.	Mofussil.	Total.
Under Rs. 500	224 25	1,87,318	2,09,743	22,268	1,93,070	2,15,338	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 500 to 1,000	6,833	47,624	54,457	6,624	46,122	52,746	9,818	50,318	60,136	9,938	46,050	56,008
„ 1,000 to 5,000	8,808	13,643	22,451	8,122	12,833	20,954	5,359	12,168	17,547	5,390	11,615	17,005
„ 5,000 to 10,000	2,706	1,466	4,172	2,612	1,398	4,010	660	1,276	1,936	672	1,349	2,021
„ 10,000 to 50,000	846	1,008	1,854	510	927	1,437	462	835	1,297	643	826	1,369
„ 50,000 to 1,00,000	50	81	131	53	74	127	51	61	112	55	60	115
Above Rs. 1,00,000	42	37	79	38	33	71	42	29	71	39	27	66
Total.....	41,710	251,177	2,92,887	40,227	2,54,456	2,94,683	16,422	64,677	81,099	16,657	59,927	76,584

ENGLISH OPINION ON LORD RIPON'S POLICY.

ALL honor to John Bright for the signal service he has done to India by coming to her rescue as it were in the present crisis. The question of the hour is not the Ilbert Bill, which is a small measure in itself, but the principles on which India should be governed, and that question has been raised by the Bill. Mr. Bright has nobly vindicated those principles. He presided at the large and influential meeting held at Willis's Rooms, and in opening the meeting he admitted that the Ilbert Bill was "a very small Bill," but that it covered a very great principle, and that if it be withdrawn, "then the hope of the people of India would be blasted, and instead of hope their souls would be filled with despair." Truly and nobly said. Mr. Bright went on to say :

And what would that despair mean ? It would mean that with a growing knowledge on the part of the people of India—because their advance in English education is remarkably wide-spread over the country—with that growing knowledge there would be a growing discontent, and with that growing discontent a growing disloyalty, and with that growing disloyalty outrages which I ask this meeting if they would like to face. Now, I must say that whatever commiseration and sympathy one can have with the gentlemen who have been many years in India, I think the clamour is very discreditable to their intelligence. What its origin is it is difficult to say. Some say its origin is to be found in the strong feelings of resistance prevailing amongst the covenanted Civil Service. [Hear hear.]

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Some say that after all there is a great deal of reasonableness in the statement that a great deal of trouble has arisen from the conduct and agitation of the lawyers in Calcutta. [Cheers and laughter.] There are one or two facts which go rather to support that. We know that lawyers are very ingenious everywhere, in every country—[laughter]—and we know also that they are a class of persons who in every country, and in this as well as any other, enjoy more of the fat things of the Government than any other classes in the kingdom. (Laughter.) Well, I am told that recently a judge in Bengal, a native lawyer of eminence, had been appointed during the absence of his brother judge, Chief Justice of Bengal, and that this was a very unpleasant pill for the English lawyers there, some one of whom, I suppose, might have expected to take that office. They fear that this is a precedent that may be followed. Then, beyond that, I am told that a native member of the Bar has recently been appointed standing counsel to the Government of India—[cheers]—and these two appointments, and the suspicion that more may follow, have disturbed the ordinarily tranquil minds of the members of the Calcutta Bar—[laughter]—and built up all this jealousy.

If this Bill becomes law, we are told, Mr. Bright said, "that you will have a perpetual animosity between the English race in India and the great subject races, the natives of India." The great Tribune remarked : "My opinion is that every measure of justice and generosity in the interests of India must break down the barriers of discontent and animosity, and must tend to the tranquility and peace of the Empire." He then reviewed the general policy of Lord Ripon and said :

Looking myself at the policy which Lord Ripon has pursued, so far as I have been able to understand it from the reading of the papers here and the many papers which come to me constantly from India, I am bound to say I believe it is a policy not based upon suspicion or on ancient prejudice, or on a spirit of monopoly, but on what is just and generous, and on broad views of statesmanship. [Cheers] When the policy of conquest in India is condemned—as I have condemned it—we are told that Providence has permitted for some great design which we are not able to measure, this wonderful thing in the history of the globe, the 250 millions of people in India should be broughtsubjectto the control of a Parliament representing 35millions of persons in Great Britain and Ireland. Well, I am not about to deny this at all. I know it has been said on high authority, speaking of the Supreme Being, that even the wrath of man shall praise Him, and possibly it may be that the results which may flow from the conquest of India and its Government by this country may in some degree compensate for the crime and suffering which were committed and endured during the progress of that conquest. (Cheers.) But I should say that one thing is perfectly certain—that India was not committed to our control to be held as a field for English ambition and for English greed. (Cheers.) Our fathers may have erred—in my opinion they did greatly err—but their children may make some compensation to the countless millions now subject to their rule by a policy of generousity and justice—(cheers)—a policy which, in my opinion, India and the world at large have a right to expect and to demand from a Christain people, as we profess to be. (Cheers.) I believe that Lord Ripon desires to advance this policy, to maintain the principles laid down in the Act of 1833, a paragraph from which I read, and in the noble proclamation of the Queen issued to the people of India in the year 1858. And I may add this belief, that this meeting will sustain the Governor-General of India in the arduous and conscientious performance of the duties of his high office.

These words impart cheer not only to Lord Ripon but to the millions of India. We hail these words as coming not only from the lips of a zealous and philanthropic friend of India but also from the heart of England. We believe that in uttering those noble words Mr. Bright gave expression to the inmost thoughts of the whole British nation, as to the principles on which India should be governed in their name and on their behalf.

Mr. Lalmohun Ghose followed Mr. Bright, and in doing so he necessarily laboured under a great disadvantage. It was no joke to sustain the interest of the meeting after an address of the greatest living orator of England, but our countryman acquitted himself most creditably. We, who have heard Mr. Lalmohun Ghose, can say that it is a pleasure to hear him. His address, his diction, his intonation, and the ease and grace and flow which he commands shew that he is a thorough master of the art of elocution, and the cultivated audience which listened to him at Willis's rooms highly appreciated these qualities. His speech is highly spoken of in the newspapers and in private letters. Even the *Times* cannot withhold its admiration from his "sonorous" periods. He lucidly explained the Indian view of the case to his English audience and showed how Lord Ripon had endeared himself to the natives of this country. He thus concluded :

"I am happy to say" "that our cause finds powerful champions among some of the greatest of your countrymen, and none more eloquent or more truly noble-hearted than you, sir, who has been a beacon to England, to the civilization of the world, through nearly half a century of public life, and has done us the honor of presiding on this occasion. (Cheers.) We have abundant faith in the justice of the English nation, and we cannot believe that they will now turn their back upon their principles or will shrink from giving their hearty support to the Viceroy, who, amid difficulties of no ordinary character, has endeavoured to give effect to the will of Parliament and to redeem the pledged word of the Queen."

Mr. Forster moved the first Resolution, which was a vote of confidence in Lord Ripon. His presence imparted a great moral strength to the meeting. He is a most conscientious politician, and would not have lent the weight of his name to this demonstration from any party or factious motive. He paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Ghose. He said: "I could wish with all my heart that if we had a debate on this subject in the House of Commons the representative of the people of India, whom we have just heard were there to plead their cause. (Cheers.) I am not sure that some English constituency may not think it an honour and a privilege to send to the House of Commons an Indian champion of their Indian fellow-subjects ; but at any rate what we have heard will teach the public that there are two sides to this question. (Cheers)" Mr. Forster spoke ably and earnestly. He thoroughly vindicated Lord Ripon's policy. He called upon the meeting to support Lord Ripon "against the present outcry," "which," he said, "is equal in violence, and equal, I believe, in unfairness and unreason, to that with which Lord Canning was assailed when he strove, and I am thankful to say with great success, to prevent justice from being replaced by revenge." The other speakers were Sir George Campbell, Mr. Chichele Plowden, Mr. Markby, Sir W. Lawson, and Mr. Bryce. Mr. Plowden remarked : "Of the 153,000 European who were resident in India, 5,000 were not British, and these were liable to be tried by native magistrates, and why should more injustice be done to Englishmen who were accused than to a few Austrians or Danes ?" Mr. Markby's speech was the most argumentative. Mr. Bryce made a remarkable statement. He said that "as a member of a firm that was one of the largest employers of European labour in India, he wished to say that he thought the threat of the withdrawal of European capital was utterly idle, adding that similar threats were uttered fifty years ago, when it was proposed that a share in the criminal jurisdiction should be given to native judges." In conclusion, in acknowledging the thanks of the meeting Mr. Bright said :

I have had for thirty years a strong interest in the welfare of that country. I have always felt that in the history of the past century—the history of our connection with India—there was much for us to regret. I have always believed, and do believe that there is retribution upon nations as well as upon individuals for the errors and crimes which they commit. But, more than that, I think that it is possible for a nation in one generation to do evil, perhaps unknowingly, and in a succeeding generation to make compensation by doing good. I am of this generation. I shall leave children who will be of the second Government to come, and I am anxious that whatever we have done that is evil in the past we may remedy by attempting to do good now, and that in the future that which some may think to be a great calamity—the wars which have taken place in India under English power—may be passed over by the historian, and he may have to tell that England having conquered the country, at any

rate knew how to govern it, and that the true government of a country—the permanent government can only be based on a just and generous policy towards its people. (Great cheering.]

Amen !

The next day of this meeting another meeting was held against the Ilbert Bill under the presidency of Mr. Stanhope. It was reported to be a meeting of the working men of London, and their passions were roused by the following devices :

"The card of admission to 'reserved' seats was headed by the words 'Persecution of English Working Men and Women in India.' A placard in front of the hall bore the words "Appeal to the People of England from the Englishwomen of India," and called upon the public to 'read a petition to the Queen against Mr. Ilbert's Bill, signed by nearly every English woman in India.' A second placard exhibited outside the building stated that the meeting was 'in opposition to Lord Ripons's policy of placing Englishwomen under the criminal jurisdiction of polygamists—native magistrates.'"

The *Times* thus reports the character of this meeting :

"The hall was crowded, and on the refusal of the chairman to allow an amendment to the first resolution to be put, adverse to the subject with which the meeting was convened, it became evident that a very considerable proportoin of those present would hear no more, and the scene became one of continued noise and confusion during the remainder of the proceedings.

So much for the working men's meeting in London ! We will not waste words upon it.

THE HIGH COURT ON THE ILBERT BILL.

THE report of the High Court on the Ilbert Bill has been published. We have read it with a mingled feeling of surprise and regret—surprise because the High Court, while representing the highest judicial talent in the country, takes such a narrow view of the momentous question at issue,and regret because we have a high respect for the Judges personally, and cannot but consider it a misfortune to see them arrayed against the progressive policy of Government. The *Times* lays the greatest stress upon this report, and regards its logic as invincible. We will briefly examine the reasons advanced by the High Court against the Bill.

I. The High Court does not approve of the Indian system of administration of justice. It says that " under it a chief local Magistrate practically becomes the prosecutor and may become the judge, notwithstanding that he may have formed a strong opinion on the case behind the back of the accused without having heard his explanation or defence." We have always condemned this system. We have repeatedly urged that judicial and executive functions ought not to be invested in the same person. The High Court seems to think that if this system has not provoked much opposition,it is due to the careful supervision of the European Magistrates. But this is not the fact. Gross abuses have frequently occurred under the very European officers,whom the Court praises so much,and if any institution has checked those abuses, it is the High Court. Strange to say that the High Court now argues that this system may be good for the Native, but not good for the European.

II. The High Court is the highest expositor of the law, and yet it makes this strange statement : " On a review of the course of legislation since 1793 it is impossible, the Judges consider, to doubt that the intention and practice of the Government has been to surround the investigation and trial of offences, charged against European British subjects in the mofussil with special precautions, and amongst those precautions to restrict the jurisdiction in such cases to European officials." It almost slurs over Act VII. of 1853. It remarks : "Any doubts which the wording of particular Acts, *e. g.*, Act VII. of 1853, might have occasioned, have been removed by the express declaration of the Codes of 1861 and 1862, in both of which this restriction was deliberately enacted." True that Act was repealed in 1862, but it had been in operation since 1853. And what did it provide ? On this point read what Mr. Justice Mitter says :

The next legislation in India on this subject was Act No. VII of 1853. By section 1, the provisions of section 105 of 53, Geo. III, cap. 155, and of Act IV of 1843, were extended to offences mentioned in it, committed "against the person or property of any person whatever." Under section 105, referred to above, it was restricted to such offences committed against *a native of India*.

Section 2 of this Act says :—"The powers in such cases"—*i.e.*, cases coming within the provision of section 105 of 53 Geo. III, cap. 155—"given to the Magistrate of the zillah or district may be lawfully exercised by any Joint-Magistrate, or other person lawlully exercising the powers of a Magistrate in the case of any offence as aforesaid, which may hereafter be committed within the district over which his authority extends."

Under section 3 of Act XV of 1843, a person, other than a European British subject, was eligible to be appointed Deputy Magistrate who was not a European British subject, and who had not been appointed a Justice of the Peace, could, if vested with the full powers of a Magistrate, take cognizance of cases mentioned in section 105 of 53 Geo. III, cap. 155.

So it could not be said that natives never exercised criminal jurisdiction over European Britsh subjects. We drew attention to this fact in our previous articles on the subject.

III. The High Court denies that this Bill is needed in furtherance of the policy of admitting natives into the Civil Service. In the first place it says that the number of natives entering the Civil Service through the door of competition is dwindling, and in the second place it considers the statutory Native Civilians untried men. We admit that a bar has been put to the admission of natives into the Civil Service by competition. But is it an honest policy which has brought about this result, and will England seal it with its sanction for ever? We do not also approve of the principle of nomination. But whatever changes may be made, we think that the flow of natives into the Civil Service cannot be checked—England's conscience has been roused and she will not allow a retrograde move—and is it not therefore necessary to adjust legislation to the manifest tendency of the age ?

IV. The High Court next echoes the common Anglo-Indian cry, that the Natives do not understand Englishmen and are not therefore fit to exercise criminal jurisdiction over them. To this the minute of Mr. Justice Mitter contains a conclusive reply. He writes :

It may be safely asserted, without fear of contradiction, that the knowledge of European Judges of the habits, customs and manners of the natives of this country is not in any degree superior to that of Native Judges, with fair English education, regarding European habits, customs, and manners.

The administration of criminal justice in the most important cases is now in the hands of European Judges. If the European Judges have been found to be successful in the administration of justice in the cases in which natives are concerned, there is every reason to hope that those Native Judges who would be entrusted with jurisdiction over European British subjects would acquit themselves with equal credit. I do not mean to say that the existence of a defect in the present system of administration of justice can justify the introduction of another defect of a similar nature. But what I mean to say is that there is no ground for complaint against the present system, and it is, therefore, reasonable to hope that there would be no ground of complaint if the proposed change in the law be carried out.

Native Magistrates have hitherto exercised jurisdiction in criminal cases in which European British subjects are complainants. If they have given satisfaction in these cases, there is every reason to hope that there would be no failure of justice in cases in which European British subjects would be accused with the commission of an offence.

Of the European and Eurasian population in the interior of the country, I believe the descendants of the Europeans, who do not come within the definition of European British subjects given in the Criminal procedure Code, form by no means an inconsiderable proportion. Those persons in criminal cases have been, hitherto, subject to the jurisdiction of ordinary tribunals. No complaint has been made of any failure of justice in the hands of Native Magistrates, in cases in which persons of this class have been tried for offences alleged to have been committed by them. Their habits, manners, and customs are, in all essential

respects, similar to those of Europeans. This fact furnishes the most cogent refutation of the argument under consideration.

Quite so. If the Native Magistrates are fit to try the Frenchman, the German, and the American, why not the Englishman ?

V. The High Court denies that there is administrative inconvenience in the absence of a law like Mr. Ilbert's Bill. We admit that there can be no administrative inconvenience if the Government fences with the law. If the Government does not act honestly and place a Native Civilian in a district inhabited by Europeans, it will certainly avoid administrative inconvenience. But this is a fraud upon the law.

VI. And lastly the High Court argues that as the Natives have personal laws they have no right to complain of special previleges enjoyed by European British subjects. But all these personal laws relate to civil rights and civic matters ; the Europeans for instance have special laws of inheritance, marriage, and divorce to which the natives do not object. But in criminal matters the natives have no personal laws, they cannot, whatever their position, wealth, and influence, not even zenana ladies, claim exemption from criminal courts of whatever description, and why should European British subject be exempted from the criminal courts presided over by natives ? Here is an invidious distinction of race and religion, which is repugnant to the first principles of British rule in India.

It is to be regretted that the *Times* did not publish the excellent minute of Mr. Justice Mitter with the report of the High Court. The poison would have carried its own antidote. We hope however we have said enough to shew that the reasoning of the High Court is a tissue of misconceptions and fallacies.

THE DEBATE UPON INDIAN EXPENDITURE IN THE COMMONS.

IT will be remembered that in May last Mr. Edward Stanhope carried a motion against the Government, declaring that it is necessary that early steps be taken to reduce the expenditure of India. On that occasion Mr. Guildford Onslow moved an amendment to Mr. Stanhope's motion, expressing "regret at the decision arrived at by Her Majesty's Government to cast a further burden upon the revenue of India in order to meet the extraordinary charges incurred by that Government on account of the military expedition to Egypt." The long-suspended debate upon Mr. Onslow's amendment was resumed in the House of Commons on the 27th of July. The proposed amendment received support from many well-known Members. Sir George Campbell called upon the House to do justice to India in this matter and urged that it was inequitable that Indian revenues should bear the charge which it was proposed to throw upon her. He observed :—" It was said that India had expressed her thanks to the Home Government for our contribution to the cost of the Indian contingent. But as he took it, all that meant was that India thought half a loaf better than no bread. But we ought not to ask India to bear any share in the extraordinary charges of the expedition—more especially as she was poor and we had already swept away part of her revenue arising from import duties. Besides, it now turned out in the accounts that India owed this country arrears amounting to two millions. The only possible interest India had in Egypt was in the Suez Canal, and England had an equal interest in that respect. The whole of the ordinary charges had already been placed to the debit of India, and would be exacted in the same way as in the Abyssinian war. He saw no justice, however, in seeking to lay upon her these extraordinary charges." Mr. Alderman Fowler thought it was the duty of the House of Commons to resist placing undue burdens on the Indian revenues, and complained that the Australian colonies, which greatly benefited by Suez Canal, had not been called on for a contribution. Mr. William Fowler protested strongly against the notoriously poor people of India being taxed in any way for the Egyptian

war, which had been started by the Home Government without consulting India. He continued :—" It was, in fact, our war, and to tax the people of India would be an abuse of Imperial power. He knew it was said that they never should have entered into this war had it not been for India ; but it did not follow that the Indian people should pay for the war with which they had nothing whatever to do. It was also said that the people of India were lightly taxed. If so, they were wretchedly poor" Mr. Blake showed that the people of India were so miserably poor that they had clearly not the means of subsistence, and that it was as much as man could do to feed his family. He contended that the people were in such a condition that they were not able to meet further taxation, and that any further taxation would increase their misery to a very great extent. " The disgraceful and profligate expenditure " by the Government of India," remarked Mr. Blake, " was a by-word in the country, and under such circumstances it would be grossly unjust to place an additional burden on the people." Sir Wilfrid Lawson also strongly supported Mr. Onslow's amendment. He pertinently observed that after any one had read the despatch of Lord Ripon protesting against saddling India with any of the expenses of the Egyptian expedition there was really nothing more to be said on the subject. He quoted the following memorable words which had been uttered by Mr. Gladstone when in opposition in reference to saddling India with the cost of the Afghan war :—" Can I bring myself to believe that the expenses of this struggle which is wholly our own act, shall be placed on India? I say no, and I will go forth to any assembly of Englishmen and tell them I say no, and appeal to them whether they will say no also. Yet I am persuaded—such is my opinion of their generosity—that when they thoroughly understand the facts of the case they will say distinctly that those who make war should pay for war." And the Egyptian case is far stronger than the Afghan one in reference to which the above words were spoken by the present Prime Minister four years ago.

Thus a very strong case was made out in favour of Mr. Onslow's amendment. The other side was argued by Mr. J. K. Cross, the Under-Secretary for India and Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Cross, as usual, made a vigorous speech ; but he failed to answer satisfactorily the arguments of the supporters of the amendment. His main contention was that the "warlike operations" in Egypt were undertaken to a large extent for the sake of preserving the road from England to India through the Suez Canal. Mr. Onslow challenged the Under-Secretary to quote any words used by the Prime Minister bearing out his contention that the war was undertaken to protect the Canal. Mr. Cross could not accept this challenge, and Mr. Gladstone supported Mr. Onslow not knowing that he was doing so. The Prime Minister misunderstanding Mr. Onslow's question and supposing that he attributed to him words which he had not uttered, asked :—" Where are they ?" The contention that the Egyptian war was undertaken mainly to protect the Suez Canal thus falls to the ground. This contention was apparently an after-thought, as it was not stated at the time of the declaration of the war. Beaten on this point, Mr. Cross shifted his ground and said the question at issue was whether India had such an interest in the maintenance of the short route through the Suez Canal as justified Her Majesty's Government in charging the Indian people with any portion of the cost of maintaining it. As might have been expected, Mr. Cross answered this question emphatically in the affirmative. It cannot be denied that India has an interest in the maintenance of the Suez Canal, and that she might fairly be called upon to pay a portion of the cost of the Egyptian war. But if according to the Abyssinian precedent, she had been made to bear the ordinary charges for the troops sent to Egypt and relieved from paying their extraordinary expenses, the ends of justice would have been met. Mr. Cross then drew a rose-coloured picture of the condition of Indian finances and declared that India was very lightly taxed. He said :—" He could not refrain from telling the House what the taxation of India was at the present moment. If they took the rent and taxes of India, what did they find? The rent of land, salt tax, stamps, excise, provincial rates, customs and registration were the taxes which are raised in India. In 1882 the taxation in the country amounted to £42,000,000 in the next year to £39,000,000. If they deducted from these figures the land tax, which was rent and not taxation, they would find that the taxation of the whole of that part of British India under our rule stood in the last three years at £22,700,000." Now in the first place, we must say that the reduction of taxation by three millions, has given no appreciable relief to the people. This large sum of money has actually been thrown away, Reduction of tax which is not felt by the taxed, is the height of unwisdom and involves a needless sacrifice of revenue. In the second place, it is a great mistake to think that the land revenue of India could only be regarded as rent and not as tax. This theory, the reader may remember, was first propounded by Mr. James Wilson, the Finance Minister of India and author of the "odious" income tax, but that this theory is utterly fallacious has been proved to demonostration by Mr. H. E. Sullivan, now a Member of the Madras Executive Council in his capacity as a Member of the Famine Commission. In the third place, when we talk of India being a lightly-taxed country, we must not forget that there can be no comparision between enormously wealthy England and miserably poor India in this matter. The average annual income of the people of England is £32 per head out of which £2½ are paid in taxes ; whereas the average annual income of the people of India is less than £2 per head, out of which 6s. are paid in taxes. Is not India relatively a more heavily-taxed country than England? Mr. Cross announced that early next year he intended to ask the House of Commons to give its consent to the appointment of a special Committee to enquire into the expenditure of India, and to report upon the recommendations of the Famine Commission so far as they related to the extension of railway communication in India. But the labours of the contemplated special Committee will not be productive of any results worth the name unless they take evidence in India. Mr. Gladstone, who followed Mr. Cross, laid very great stress upon the circumstance that Mr. Onslow's amendment meant censure, and if carried, would involve the resignation of the Ministry. This declaration had naturally a great effect upon the Ministerialists as well as upon the Opposition. The Prime Minister attempted to prove that with regard to the payment of the expenses of the Egyptian war, the position of the Australian Colonies differed from that of India inasmuch as the Home Government had an understanding with them by which it has undertaken to defray the cost of wars, and therefore, the Government could not call upon the former for a contribution without committing a breach of faith. But does not equity demand that a similar understanding should be made with the dumb and unrepresented millions of India? The result of the debate was that the Ministry defeated Mr. Onslow's amendment by 210 against 55, and Mr. Stanhope's motion was affirmed in its original form.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE JURISDICTION BILL.

THE Bengal Chamber of Commerce have submitted a memorial to the Viceroy against Mr. Ilbert's Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill. This memorial is, in some respects, a remarkable document, and as such, demands more than a passing notice. The memorial says : " It commonly happens that Englishmen come to this country imbued with benevolent or sentimental theories, most of which are based on the assumption that political equality between the European and Native races is possible and desirable ; but such equality your memorialists consider an illusion—an illusion which has, indeed, a semblance of generosity, but which very slight experience suffices to strip of its specious attractions and altogether to dispel. Those who have not penetrated into the plausible surface which the Oriental usually presents to European eyes may continue to cherish such an illusion ; but it is impossible for those to do so who, like your memorialists, are brought into daily contact with the various classes of the people in the ordinary transactions of life." The Chamber thus scout the notion that political equality between the European and the Native is either possible or desirable in India. The members of the Chamber apparently belong to what Professor Wordsworth of Bombay pertinently calls " the party of ascendancy." This party hold that India has been conquered by the sword and it must be maintained by the sword. They look upon the Natives of India as a conquered people, who have no rights independent of the will and pleasure of the conquering race. " They are always," as Professor Wordsworth justly remarks, " reminding the people of India that they are a conquered race, and at the same time wondering with idiotic incoherence that they are not grateful for being conquered. They recognise no contract or obligation as limiting in any mode their own omnipotence as conquerors, and yet expect their conquered helots to be enthusiastically loyal. They are as incapable as any of the tyrants we read in history of recognising any rights independent of their own will and pleasure, or even tolerating the assumption that any such rights can possibly exist, and yet pride themselves with fatuous incongruity on their wonderful moral superiority. The plain truth is that the morality of these people is still essentially a barbarian morality which a cheap varnish of civic culture and Christian phraseology is quite incapable of disguising. I sometimes meet in society these savages in broad cloth, or I should think it highly ridiculous to discuss any public question with them, which involved considerations of moral equality or required any appreciation of historical fact and historical causation." The members of the Chamber of Commerce forget that British supremacy in India is not inconsistent with equality of the European and Native races in the eye of the law. In order to secure the stability of the British Empire in Asia, which is a theme of wonder to the whole civilized world, it is surely not necessary to have one law for the governor and another for the governed. Well does Professor Wordsworth say that " the persons, who ignoring the facts of history, attribute to the sword alone their presence in this country and set up a claim to b regarded as superior beings, are by no means the kind of persons by whom a durable empire would ever have been built up, and that men of the stamp of Mr. Branson are better fitted to lose than to win an Empire."

The members of the Chamber of Commerce, as astute and shrewd men of business, are far too sensible not to see that though a conquered people have no rights, they may have such rights as have been conceded to them by their conquerors. It is for this reason that they are at much pains to show in the memorial under notice that neither the Jurisdiction Bill nor the policy upon which it is based are necessary or legitimate developments of the spirit of Her Majesty's Proclamation of 1858. They argue :—" If that Proclamation involved such changes as the present Bill contemplates, further allowance in the same direction would be inevitable ; so that the finality claimed for the measure could not exist. Her Majesty's Proclamation, however, does not profess to prescribe or define the course of future legislation, which is by law placed under the control of your Excellency in Council. The Proclamation initiated no new policy. Moreover, your memorialists venture to submit that it would not have been competent to Her Most Gracious Majesty's proclamation, to prescribe to the course of future legislation a consideration which appears conclusive as to the true scope of the Proclamation in question. Your memorialists, therefore, deem themselves at liberty to consider this proposed measure on its merits both as regards its policy and its detailed provisions. Your memorialists can discover no anomaly in the existing system beyond the natural anomaly that races differ, with the result that the subject race is unfit to govern the dominant race. This policy rests upon the assumption that a native who has attained a certain position is, in all respects, as well qualified as an Englishman to perform all duties which an Englishman of similar position may be set to perform. To proceed to apply this theory —a theory requiring a bold disregard of fact

and experience—to so delicate a matter as the administration of criminal justice between the two races is surely not warranted, much less required, by the Queen's Proclamation. It appears to your memorialists that the policy in question rests upon a confusion of ideas with regard to the Proclamation—namely, that the absence of disability implies fitness. This policy your memorialists view with the utmost anxiety, and they regard the necessity of discussing it as a public misfortune." The position taken up by the Chamber of Commerce fully proves the truth of the late Lord Lawrence's remark that every one is in the abstract for justice towards Natives, but when one comes to apply the principle so as to affect any body's interests, then a change comes over them. We are really astonished to hear it argued for the first time in the course of this long and sad controversy that the policy on which the Jurisdiction Bill is based is not warranted by the spirit of Her Majesty's famous Proclamation of 1858, which we are accustomed to regard as our Magna Charta. The members of the Chamber must have been pressed hard for arguments to support a weak case when they could urge that the Proclamation in question initiated no new policy. Did not the Proclamation announce in plain and emphatic terms the abandonment of the policy of annexation, which had been vigorously pursued in the pre-Mutiny era? It is true that in the matter of the employment of Natives in the public service the Proclamation did not initiate a new policy; but this is simply because it was not necessary to do so. The Charter Act of 1833 positively laid down that Natives should not be excluded from the public service in consequence of their religion or place of birth or residence. This policy was re-asserted by the Proclamation of 1858, which said: "And it is our further will that, so far as may be, our subjects of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability, and integrity, duly to discharge." According to the Proclamation of 1858 the question of investing Native Judicial officers with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects hinges entirely upon the fitness of these officers to exercise such power. Now, are not the Native Judicial Officers upon whom it is proposed to confer the power of trying European British subjects qualified by their education, ability and integrity, duly to discharge the duties that will devolve upon them? This point has now been placed beyond the range of controversy. No less a personage than Mr. W. S. Seton-Karr late of the Bengal Civil Service, in moving the first Resolution at the great Anglo-Indian meeting held in St. James Hall, did not question the fitness of Native Judicial Officers to try European British subjects. Mr. Seton-Karr was for many years a District Judge and High Court Judge in Bengal, and he is a staunch opponent of the Jurisdiction Bill. His opinion must, therefore, be accepted as conclusive. The Proclamation of 1858, it must be remembered, did not prescribe the course of future legislation; it merely laid down the principles on which India was to be governed by England. This it was certainly competent to Her Gracious Majesty to do. The argument that the Jurisdiction Bill is not warranted by the Proclamation of 1858 is, indeed, so absurd that we really wonder how could a body of sensible men like the members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce seriously advance it. It is an insult to their intelligence. The memorialists further contend that the susceptibilities of the entire British community in India deserve, at least, as much consideration as the susceptibilities of a few Native officials. But here the members of the Chamber entirely miss the point. It is absurd to talk of the susceptibilities of a few Native officials in connection with the Jurisdiction Bill. A broad and important principle is involved in the measure.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE FOLLOWING is a telegraphic summary of the Queen's speech proroguing Parliament:

London, August 25.—Parliament was prorogued to-day. The Queen's speech, which was read by the Lord Chancellor, stated that the harmony of our relations with all foreign Powers remains undisturbed.

The work of administrative reorganization in Egypt, although retarded by the cholera, has steadily advanced. The aim of the British Government was a temporary occupation of the country. The considerations which must supply to the measure of its duration, her Majesty said, and the constant direction of my efforts to the maintenance of established rights, the tranquillity of the East, and the welfare of the Egyptians, as has been more than once explained, remain unchanged.

Events arising from the French operations in Madagascar are subjects of communication with the French Government which are being conducted in a spirit of friendship, and will no doubt lead to a satisfactory result. In connexion with these events, my attention has been and will continue steadily directed to all which may affect the rights and liberties of my subjects.

My hopes for the restoration of peace and order in Zululand have not been fulfilled. While avoiding gratuitous interference, my Government will study the fulfilment of all engagements, and keep in view the security of the Natal border. The working of the Transvaal convention has been far from satisfactory. The question of frontier policy and other points will be discussed shortly by my Ministers and the Transvaal Envoys.

The Revenue Estimates for the first year have been fully realized. Agricultural improvement has taken place, and the trade of the country is sound.

Her Majesty then proceeded to express her greater satisfaction with the condition of Ireland. The Land Act, she said, was widely operating, and the combination against fulfilment of contracts and specially payment of rents, had been broken up. A diminution had occurred in agrarian outrages, and associations whose object was murder had been checked by the detection and punishment of the offenders.

The speech concluded by enumerating the principal measures of the session.

Sad to observe that our Queen-Mother has not a word to say about her Indian children. Of course it is Her Ministers, who are responsible for this omission.

A PILLAR of the Empire is gone! Sir Evelyn Baring has left India to join his appointment in Egypt. The loss which we suffer from his departure we cannot at present calculate—time will shew it. An economist of high calibre, an administrator of rare capacity, a sound and robust thinker, a lover of freedom, and a large-hearted, enlightened, and sympathizing friend of the people, Sir Evelyn eminently possesses the good qualities of a ruler of men, and those qualities shone to great advantage during his brief but brilliant career as Finance Minister of India. We have not been able to agree with him on all points of his financial administration, but that does not preclude us from according him the praise which he undoubtedly deserves. He was the right hand and strong hand of Lord Ripon, to whom his departure from India is a personal loss. He was honored with two valedictory addresses at Bombay on his way home, but he is too high-minded and strong-minded to care for certificates of this kind. We said before and venture to say again that in the benign dispensation of Providence we may be permitted to welcome him back to India in the highest office in the gift of the Crown for which he is so eminently fitted.

WE ARE glad to observe that the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta are taking time by the forelock by providing for sanitary arrangements in view of the coming Exhibition. It cannot however be fair that the whole expense should be thrown upon the Municipal fund. The Exhibition is an imperial undertaking and the extra cost of the sanitary arrangements or a good portion of it ought to be borne by the imperial fund.

AT THE meeting at Willis's Rooms Mr. Bright in his great speech on Lord Ripon's policy thus adverted to the Bengal Rent Bill: "One is the Bengal Rent Law, which is now before the Indian Government—a bill which I read with care, and also a very able speech upon it by Mr. Ilbert the other day. The condition of Bengal with regard to land had been, perhaps, about as bad as the condition of Ireland three years ago—(hear, hear)—and the bill which is proposed, in my opinion, is absolutely necessary under the circumstances; and although the zemindars and the land-owners are greatly opposed to it, I believe they will understand hereafter that probably acceptance of it is the very wisest thing they can do under the circumstances in which they are placed." We are afraid that Mr. Bright has not weighed well the facts and arguments on both sides. If he had done that, we feel sure he would not have supported the policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul.

REALLY we live in strange times. Our Government will pay the Amir of Kabul an annual subsidy of 12 lacs without any condition or treaty. The following conversations took place in the House of Lords on the subject:

August 9.—Earl Stanhope asked the Secretary of State for India whether he would now explain the conditions upon which the Government of India had undertaken to pay Abdur Rahman a subsidy of £120,000 a year; whether a treaty had been made with him; and whether the treaty, or any other agreement that might have been entered into, contained favourable stipulation for the admission of British commerce into Afghanistan.

The Earl of Kimberley said: My answer to the noble Earl's question is this: The annual subsidy of twelve lakhs of rupees is given as a subsidy personal to the Ameer Abdur Rahman as an aid towards meeting his present difficulties in the management of his State, to be devoted to the payment of his troops and other measures required for the defence of his territories. No treaty has been concluded with the Ameer, nor have any engagements been entered into as to commerce.

Earl Stanhope asked whether there were no conditions attached to the grant of the subsidy.

The Earl of Kimberley: I have given a precise answer to the noble Earl as to the terms on which the subsidy has been given to the Ameer.

We could not conceive that our Government should give away such a large sum annually without attaching any condition to the grant. The *Satya Yug* or the Golden Age has come back!

WE ARE SORRY to observe that even Mr. Gladstone should indulge in mere platitudes about India. In the debate on Indian expenditure he said:

The question we have to ask ourselves is not whether India is a poorer country than England, but whether it is for the benefit of India that she should be attached to this country and whether we are endeavouring to govern India for her own benefit. If we are not doing so, if we are endeavouring to make her resources auxiliary only to the greatness of England, then we cannot make up for so gross an iniquity as that by the trumpery proposal of giving India, £500 000. We ought to talk out of India, and the sooner the better unless we are prepared to manage the affairs of India for the benefit of her people. (Cheers.) That is the very thing we are trying to do, but let it not be said that it is a good argument for laying the burden on the people of England that India was not a self-governed country.

But is it for the benefit of India that she should be made to contribute for wars which England may wage for imperial purposes. The colonies, though directly interested, are not required to pay, but India, however poor, must pay. This is justice!

IN THE SAME speech Mr. Gladstone remarks:

Could India be made a self-governed country? Would it be for her benefit that she should be made a self-governed country? I am quite sure that every one will answer. "No"; and if so it is our business to govern her on principles of justice, and to hold the scales evenly between the people of India and England.

Yes, India is not fit for self-government, of course not in the sense of local "self-government," so England must think for her, and she must therefore take from her coffers what she may want for her own use. This was the language of the Conservatives when they charged India with the expenses of the Affghan War. This also reminds us of the memorable conversation between Alexander and the Robber.

WE CONGRATULATE Mr. Malabari on his publication of the Maharathi translation of the Hibbert Lectures of Professor Max Muller. The book is neatly got up, and contains a photographic likeness of the eminent Sanskritist. The translation has been rendered by Mr. Govind Wasudeo Kantikar, B. A., L. L. B. Pleader, High Court, Bombay. It has been appropriately dedicated to the first Maharatha Prince in India, His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda. Mr. Malabari in addressing His Highness says:

May it be the privilege of these pages to strengthen your Highness's ideas of Law and Order, to help you to a clearer conception of the Infinite and the Eternal, and by leading you to a study of your own true Self, may they bring you face to face with the Highest, the Universal Self, inspiring a life of unselfish usefulness.

We sincerely and earnestly hope that His Highness will mark his appreciation of the labours of this devoted student of literature by liberally patronizing his project. We have great faith in the young Gaekwar, in his love of education and literature, and his desire for national advancement, and make no doubt that he will give liberal encouragement to patriotic gentlemen like Mr. Malabari in their literary and national aspirations. By-the-bye Mr. Malabari has an additional claim to the Gaekwar's patronage as he was born in his own principality.

THE CALCUTTA Tramway Company lately prosecuted a passenger Babu Rajendranath Chatterjee on a charge of cheating for passing from a horse car to a steam car with a horse car ticket. The case was tried by a bench of Honorary Magistrates, Babus Greesh Chunder Ghose and Sham Chand Mitter. The Magistrates have dismissed the charge and have made strong comments on the conduct of servants of the Company. Three things seem to be evident from the proceedings and the judgments of the Magistrates, 1stly that whatever the rule in practice the passengers are allowed to pass from one line to another with the same ticket, 2ndly that in the case under notice there could not lie a charge for cheating as the accused had no criminal intention, he having actually paid more than he was liable to pay for the steam car, and, 3rdly, that he was illegally arrested, as his name and whereabouts could have been easily ascertained. We regret we cannot give the evidence and the judgments *in extenso*, and as it is reported that the case has been laid before the High Court in its Revisional capacity we reserve comments. The case, however, discloses a state of things in the management of the Calcutta tramways, which surely calls for reform.

RENT-BILL MEETINGS.

BEERBHOOM.

The following Resolutions were proposed and passed at a meeting of the Landholders of Beerbhoom held at the Pleaders' Chambers at Suri on the 19th August 1883.

1. That in the opinion of this meeting the Bengal Tenancy Bill now before the Indian Legislature proposes to introduce provisions which are subversive of the rights of landholders in this country as guaranteed to them by the Permanent Settlement and the landholders of this district view them with great alarm.

Proposed by Babu Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty, seconded by Babu Rajender Coomar Banerjee and carried *nem con.*

2. That in the opinion of this meeting the redistribution of landed rights involved in the Bill does not come within the reservation contained in section 8 Reg. I. of 1793.

Moved by Babu Dhone Krishna Ghose seconded by Babu Bonka Behary Mitter —Carried.

3. That such redistribution of rights is calculated to have a most prejudicial effect on the good feelings which have hitherto subsisted between landlords and tenants in this part of the country.

Moved by Babu Dakhina Runjun Mookerjee seconded by Babu Ramkrishna Dutt —Carried.

4. That it is expedient humbly to memorialise the Government of India praying that the Bill might not be passed or at any rate the legislative action of Government might be stayed until enquiries into the relative position of landlords and tenants be more exhaustively made and the necessity of remodelling the same be more clearly demonstrated.

Moved by Khan Kudeotulla Bahadur—seconded by Munshi Muralbag—carried.

5. That this meeting is of opinion that any action the andholders of this district may take in the matter of the Rent Bill should be in co-operation and concert with the Central Committee of Landholders and the British Indian Association in Calcutta.

Moved by Babu Tin Cowri Roy, seconded by Babu Protab Chunder Mitra—carried.

6. That with a view to carry out the above objects a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen with power to add to their number be formed to collect subscriptions and take other steps for the same :—Babus Dwarka Nath Chuckerbutty, Dhone Krishna Ghose, Dukakina Runjun Mookerjee, Bonko Behari Mittra, Rama Prosonna Sinha and the Mover.

Moved by Munshi Syed Sahud Rohim. Seconded by Babu Kristochunder Ghose—carried.

HOOGHLY.

A meeting was held at Serampore in the district of Hooghly on the 1st instant, Babu Joykissen Mukerjea presiding. We will give the proceedings in our next.

DINAGEPORE.

We have received too late for insertion in this issue the proceedings of a meeting held in Dinagepore. We reserve the report for the next issue.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the Skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah, Street, Calcutta,

Beware of other worthless imitations.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Dr. Sinclair Coghill, Physician to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor writes :—"For many years I have, in private practice, exclusively prescribed the Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, from a large and intimate experience of its superiority as a remedial agent in appropriate cases to other Cod Liver Oils ignorantly lauded on account of their comparative tastelessness and lightness of colour. More recently I have had, in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption here, an opportunity of instituting a more extensive and systematic comparison, and I have convinced myself that in Tubercular and the various forms of Strumous Disease, Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil possesses greater theraputic efficacy than any other Cod Liver Oil with which I am acquainted. It was specially noted, in a large number of cases in which the patients protested they had never been able to retain or digest other Cod Liver Oil, that Dr. de Jongh's Oil was not only to lerated, but taken readily, and with marked benefit. Dr. de Jongh's Oil is now only the Cod Liver Oil used in the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Secy. Macordah Young Men's Library	4	0	0
M. Deva Esq., London	16	8	0
David Pal Esq., Calicut	3	6	0
Principal Agra College	7	0	0
Kumar Bunwary Anund Bahadoor, Cutwa	5	0	0
Moulvi Abdool Bary Ampta	19	2	0
S. M, Arshud Esq., Bhagulpore	1	10	0
Prince Wares Ali Khan, Mysore Family, Rosapagla	10	12	3
N. B. S. Railway, Saidpore	18	12	0
Gholam Hossen, Beneras	10	0	0
Baboo Poorna Chunder Banerjee, Rutlam	13	4	0
" Baroda Nath Haldar, Luckhimpore	7	4	0
" Poresh Nath Sookool, Krishnaghur	6	10	0
" Gyan Chunder Mukerjee, Raniguuge	13	4	0
" Anund Chunder Mullick, Gungajulghatty	13	4	0
" Joygopal Banerjee, Mirzapore	6	10	0
" Mohim Chunder Roy, Nattore	15	0	0
" Taruck Nath Dutt, Mymensingh	5	14	0
" Debendra Kumar Roy, Chowdry Barripore	13	4	0
" Duckhina Runjon Sanyal, Pubna	6	10	0
" Basnut Coomar Newghy, Bancoorah	5	0	0
" Sasi Bhoosan Mitter. Dacca	3	0	0
" Ashutosh Ghose. Chundernagore	10	0	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*29th August*, 1883.

General—17th Augt—In supersession of order of 12th June last, Baboo Ishree Prosad, Sub-Depy Colr, Bettiah, Chumparun, leave from 8th to 24th idem, inclusive.

20th August—Moulvi Ahmed, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Furreedpore, leave for two months and fifteen days, from date he may be relieved.

Moulvi Mofizuddin, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Nuddea, is transfd to Furreedpore, and posted to the sudder station of that dist.

Baboo Haradhan Ghose, Tehsildar, Khondmals, Cuttack, returned to duty on afternoon of 26th ult.

Baboo Shoshi Mohun Talukdar, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr on land registration work of Chittagong, leave for one month and ten days, from date he may be relieved.

Baboo Chandra Kant Nag to act as a Sub-Depy Colr, for employment on land registration work in Chittagong, during absence of Baboo Shoshi Mohun Talukdar.

22nd Augt—Baboo Kusteri Lal, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Purneah, leave for one month, from 2nd inst.

23rd Augt—Baboo Sant Prosad, Depy Magte and Depy Colr is posted to the sudder station of the Mozufferpore dist.

Baboo Fatick Chunder Dass to act as Sub-Depy Colr of Backergunge, during absence of Babu Doorga Mohun Ghose.

Baboo Otool Chunder Chatterjee. Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Attia, Mymensingh, leave for two months, from date he may be relieved.

Baboo Ketter Mohun Mookerjee, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Hooghly, on leave, temply to have charge of the Attia sub-divn of the Mymensingh dist, during absence, on leave, of Baboo Otool Chunder Chatterjee.

24th Augt—Baboo Kedar Nath Mookerjee, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr, Sasseram, Shahabad, returned to duty on afternoon of 8th Augt 1883.

25th Augt—Mr J Ware Edgar, C S I, Offg Magte and Colr, Dacca, to act as Comr of the Dacca Divn, during absence of Mr N S Alexander.

27th Augt—Baboo Chundy Churn Bose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Hazaribagh, on leave, is transfd to Noakholly, and to have charge of the Fenny sub-divn of that dist.

Police—23rd August—Mr G W S Cox, Asst Supdt of Police in charge of the Dist Police, Maldah, to act as Dist. Supdt of Police, Howrah, during absence, on deptn, of Mr J A P Sneyd.

Mr A S Judge, Asst Supdt of Police, Serajgunge, Pubna, to have charge of the Dist Police, Maldah, vice Mr G W S Cox.

Ecclesiastical—18th Augt—The Rev A W R Quinlan Chapln of Dum-Dum, leave for three months, from 10th, prox, or susequent date.

Advertisements.

WANTED.

By the Road Cess Committee, Mymensingh 5 competent Sub-Overseers, possessing the qualifications of Sub-Overseers P. W. D.

Salary Rs. 25 per mensem each, including travelling allowance.

Applications with Engineering testimonials to be sent to the undersigned.

Mymensingh, The 18th August 1883. } R. WALLNUTT, District Engineer, Road Cess Committee.

WANTED a draftsman clerk for the office of the Superintendent of Public Works Dhenkanal on a salary of Rs. 25 per month. The appointment is at present temporary for 3 months, but there is every likelihood of its permanency. None need apply who has no knowledge in Surveying and Levelling. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned up to the 20th September 1883.

KRISHNA CHUNDER MOOKERJEA,
Superintendent of Public Works,
Dhenkanal via Katak.

WANTED TO RENT OR BUY.

100 acres of culturable land situate within 15 miles of Calcutta, to start a farm and a dairy. Easy Communication with Calcutta by River or Railway, and a small dry pucca house on the land will be considered as great recommendations. Communicate with SREE NATH DUTTA, NATIONAL TEA Co. BISHANATH DARRANG before 30th day of November. A Dalal who will be able to secure such a land will be sufficently rewarded.

Notice.

Wanted an English teacher competent to teach a preparatory Entrance class for the H. C. E. school at Majoo, Jagatbullubpore Police station, Howrah, Salary Rs. 30 per mensem. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned up to the 8th instant. The selected candidate must be ready to join his post on the 13th idem.

71 Pathuriaghata Street, Calcutta. } KHIRODA PROSAD BOSE.

THE CASE OF MR. BANNERJEE.

The Argument of Counsel on the Petition by Mr. Bannerjee for special leave to appeal and the Judgment of the Privy Council thereon will be found in the *Indian Jurist, in Extenso*, 1st September 1883. Single copy, Rs. 2,

Indian Jurist Office, Madras. } J. PEMBERTON, *Agent*,

Mr. ILBERT'S BILL.

The Letter of the Judges of the High Court at Calcutta to the Government of India on Mr. Ilbert's Bill will be found *in Extenso* in the *September* Number of the "*Indian Jurist*," 1883. Price Rs. 2 per copy for cash.

J. PEMBERTON,
Agent, Madras.

Notice.

No

The undersigned who attained majority on the 26th day of July 1883 hereby repudiates all contracts, agreements, Hand-notes, Promissory Notes, Bonds and all and every kind of undertakings which, during his minority, several parties, having taken undue advantage of his vicious and extravagant habits contrived to secure from him and in all cases without proper consideration and knowing full well that he required no money for any necessary expenses. And the undersigned further requests the public to take notice that he has prepared and issued a Seal of his name from the date of his attaining majority and henceforward no document or writing of any kind whatsoever shall be binding upon him, unless they bear his Seal and signature *both*.

Dacca, the 21st August, Tuesday, 1883. } HARI DAS BASAK, Kalta Bazar.

NOTICE.

Tenders will be received by the District Engineer up to the 10th of September for the execution of the following works in the Purneah District Road Cess Department, season 1883-84.

Tenders to be on Forms 7M. and 15½M. Further particulars can be had at the District Engineer's Office.

ALLOTMENTS.

			Rs.
Repairs.			
Earth work Repairs on	29	Roads	21,436
Surface Repairs	38	„	12,124
Bridge Repairs	9	„	892
Drain Pipes	11	„	2,048
Miscellaneous		.....	1,389
Original.			
Timber Bridging on 5 Roads.....			10,104
Jhamah Metalling 1 mile.....			3,622
Planting trees on 3 Roads			1,856
Pipes			249
Earth work on 1 Road.....			1,742
Additions to Road Cess Office			738

পোর্ট ক্যানিং এবং ল্যাণ্ড ইম্প্রবমেণ্ট কোং লিমিটেড্।

বিজ্ঞাপন।

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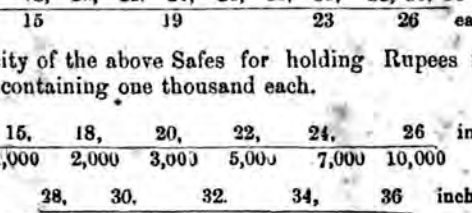

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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA.